

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): No certificate is necessary.

MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Has he been medically examined?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I is not necessary under the G. O.

MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Does not the recent G. O. insist that there must be unquestionable public grounds? Is this not against the G. O.?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The extension is not against the G. O.

*Extension of Service to Mr. V. Subba Aiyar.*

130. MR. M. R. MADHAVA VARIAR (*Chengannur cum Patanamtitta*): Will the Government be pleased to state whether the Additional Head Sirkar Vakil, Mr. Subba Aiyar, has been given an extension of service for the third time?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The member is referred to the answer to part (a) of question No. 129.

*Remission of Import Duty on Pictures for Church Use.*

131. MR. N. RAMAKRISHNA PILLAI (*Vaikam cum Ettumanur*): (a) Will the Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Excise Commissioner has recently given orders to the Assistant Excise Commissioner, Alleppey, and the Customs Inspector in charge of the Alleppey Customs House, that no duty need be realised on pictures and other articles imported for the use of churches?

(b) If so, has the Commissioner asked for and obtained the sanction of the Government for the same?

(c) If sanction has been given, has the necessary notification exempting such articles from customs duty been published in the *Gazette*?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*):

(a) The answer is in the affirmative.

(b) and (c) Under the Import Tariff Notification, (item No. 102), statues and pictures intended to be put up for public benefit in a public place are exempt from payment of duty, and on a reference from the Excise Commissioner whether statues and pictures imported for being set up in churches would be covered by this exemption, Government have decided that they would be. No separate notification is, in the circumstances, necessary.

MR. N. RAMAKRISHNA PILLAI (*Vaikam cum Ettumanur*): May I know whether the pictures are intended for use in the churches or for sale?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): They are for use in churches.

[Mr. Joseph Panjikaran.]

MR. N. RAMAKRISHNA PILLAI (*Vaikam cum Ettumanur*): May I know what the rule is with regard to the import duty in British India?

PRESIDENT: Are you asking about the exemption from duty, Mr. Ramakrishna Pillai?

MR. N. RAMAKRISHNA PILLAI (*Vaikam cum Ettumanur*): May I know whether these pictures are exempt from import duty in British India?

PRESIDENT: The tariff is the same both for British India and Travancore and the rates and immunity must be also the same.

*Arms Rules.*

132. MR. JOSEPH PANJIKARAN (*Sherattalai*): What steps have the Government taken to carry out the resolution regarding Arms Rules moved by Mr. Kunjitomman and passed by the Council on the 6th Medam, 1098?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The matter is still engaging the attention of Government.

MR. JOSEPH PANJIKARAN (*Sherattalai*): Can the Government point out any action on their part which will go to show that the matter is still engaging the attention of the Government?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): There is the reply of the Government that the matter is engaging their attention.

PRESIDENT: The statement made in the reply must be accepted.

MR. JOSEPH PANJIKARAN (*Sherattalai*): What I want to know is whether any action can be pointed out by Government which will go to show that the matter is still engaging the attention of the Government.

PRESIDENT: The stage probably has not arisen when an announcement could be made about it. When Government say that the matter is engaging their attention, it must be accepted.

MR. JOSEPH PANJIKARAN (*Sherattalai*): What I want to know is whether the Government can point out anything which would go to show that the matter is being attended to.

PRESIDENT: The Government cannot yet make a definite announcement.

MR. JOSEPH PANJIKARAN (*Sherattalai*): If it is not relevant, I do not ask it.

PRESIDENT: It is not irrelevant; but it is opposed to public policy to admit such a question.

MR. JOSEPH PANJIKARAN (*Sherattalai*): Under the rules, does it not arise?